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WIGAN ATHLETIC

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WIGAN ATHLETIC v BOLTON WANDERERS

League Division Three

Friday, September 26th, 1986. Kick off 7.45 p.m.

Tonight's match sponsored by: WESTHOUGHTON CAR RADIO

INFOCUS



WIGAN ATHLETIC



David Lowe's snap header opens the scoring.



Chris Thompson shows some deadly finishing for goal number two.



By John Leatherbarrow

WALSALL



Triallist Mark Hilditch strikes for our third goal.



Paul Jewell is denied a deserved goal by the Walsall keeper.

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Northern Premier League: Champions 1970-71, 1974-75, Northern Premier Cup: Winners 1971-72, Northern Premier Shield: Winners 1972-73, 1973-74, 1975-76, Cheshire League: Champions 1933-34, 1934-35, 1935-36, 1944-45, Lancashire Combination: 1947-48, 1950-51, 1952-53, 1953-54, F.A. Cup: Best Season: 4th rnd. 1979-80, Football League Cup: Best Season: 4th rnd. 1981-82, Freight Rover Trophy: Winners 1984-85.

BOARDROOM

TODAY'S game against our local rivals from Bolton comes at a difficult time for both clubs. Our present position at 23rd in the League is the lowest we have held since we were promoted to the Third Division in 1982. In our previous four seasons in this Division we have never been lower than 19th. It is still too early to the season to get into a panic but clearly, results have got to improve quickly. We met with great misfortune at Blackpool last Saturday when Andy Moore injured his ankle before the game started and then Ian Griffiths suffered a serious shoulder injury. We can expect another robust game tonight and an all-out effort will be needed to get the three points.

Bolton dropped to the Third Division in 1983 and in the past three seasons they have finished 10th, 17th and 18th. It is interesting to note that after their first nine games in 1984-85, Bolton were in 23rd position with only seven points. We are at present in 23rd position with only three points from the first six games. Fortunately, there is time to put matters right and urgent attention is being given by the Manager to improving results on the field.

It is a sign of the times that this match is being played on a Friday evening instead of the normal Saturday afternoon. Football is suffering more than any other leisure activity from the antics of the hooligan minority in present-day society. Drastic action is needed to ride the game of this scourge. We cannot afford to switch too many games from Saturday afternoon because we shall be in danger of being excluded from Pools coupons and lose about £40,000 from the Pools allocation.

VIEWPOINT

ATHLETIC

AN

Ray Mathias

WHAT an indifferent week we had last week, starting with a very entertaining game against Walsall, typifying everything good in English football, plenty of chances being made, five being converted and lots of goal mouth incidents. After saying over the last couple of weeks an early goal would be needed to spark the confidence in the lads, this gave us the impetus to what I feel was our best performance of the season.

Credit must also be given to Walsall who certainly played their part in producing this type of game and with the quality of their play it just highlights how well we played on the night.

After spending a lot of time looking for players to strengthen our squad the signing of Andy Moore from Grimsby on a months loan, I felt was a positive addition, he should have made his Wigan debut against Blackpool but unfortunately in the pre-match warm up he damaged ankle ligaments and rapid changes had to be made to the team as it was only two minutes before the team sheet had to be taken to the referee. Without making excuses for what I felt was our worst performance of the season, an incident of this nature certainly does not help and most of our pre-match plans certainly from a defensive point of view had to be reshuffled.

Having said all this it must be said I was very unhappy with our display and the positive things we have shown so far this season were not in evidence on the day. Being reduced to ten men for most of the second half through the injuries to Chris Thompson and Ian Griffiths with a dislocated shoulder, didn't help our cause, but I will be looking for a vastly improved performance against our opposition tonight.

I would like to welcome manager Phil Neal, directors, players and staff for this evening's game against Bolton, hopefully both sets of supporters will play their part with good behaviour in making it a very enjoyable evening for everybody.



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Supporters Club Topics

To quote my favourite sports presenter, "Football's a funny old game", one week we rejoice in a 5-1 victory, next week we suffer a 5-1 defeat, whatever the opinions of our supporters we really must stick by and cheer on our team. Remember, after a defeat there is nobody that feels worse than the players themselves. Tonight, let's cheer Ray and the lads on, and hope they will be joining us in a celebration drink after the match.

The Springfield Park Golf Society played its annual club championship at the very impressive Shaw Hill Golf Club, Chorley. Some good golf was played (not by me) but not good enough to beat our very own Chris Copfeg who is club champion for the next year. Congratulations Chris.

Our Games Section had mixed fortunes last week, the Darts and Dominoes both going down 5-2 at the Prince of Wales. While the Pool team chalked up a victory against the Seven Stars.

Most of you will remember ex Latics winger Dave McMullen from a few years ago. Well Dave still plays amateur football with Wigan Tech, but unfortunately broke his leg at the weekend at Preston. Here's wishing Dave a speedy recovery, although he could still beat me at Golf with one leg.

Cheers,
A. Liptrot

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Harold Ashurst's



3rd DIVISION SCENE

A STOMACH bug among Chester players caused their game against Gillingham to be called off last weekend, although manager Harry McNally did admit that his call after the Bournemouth defeat for a performance full of running had been taken a bit too far!

Victory in that game would have taken Gillingham to the top of the table but clear leaders are Middlesbrough, who saw off the challenge of Chesterfield 2-0 in front of an impressive crowd of over 7,000.

Second half goals from Mowbray and Laws put a smile back on the faces of the people at a club that so nearly folded during the summer.

York stay in second place thanks to a slender 1-0 victory over struggling Bury, who've yet to win a game this season.

It needed a penalty from Hood to see York home and Bournemouth are just a point behind in Third place, despite their 1-1 draw at Mansfield. The much travelled Neville Chamberlain scored for the home side while O'Connor netted for the visitors.

Blackpool are fourth after their 5-1 demolition job on Wigan while Bristol City, 3-0 winners over bookies' promotion favourites Carlisle, are looming ominously in fifth place.

But just how a table can change at this early stage of the season is shown by Newport. When they met Latics two weeks ago they had just one point for their pains so far. Victory at Springfield Park, and two more within the space of four days has lifted them to seventh. Their latest success came against Doncaster.

At the bottom, Walsall's game with Swindon was called off, again due to a stomach bug among the Walsall players, but Chester find themselves in the bottom four, along with Wigan and Bury, courtesy of their non appearance against Gillingham.

Swindon, Rotherham, Carlisle and Darlington, look to be in for a season of struggle unless fortunes change and Port Vale could well be joining them, if their 3-0 defeat at Bolton was anything to go by.

Weekend fixtures: Bournemouth v. Bristol City; Bristol Rovers v. Blackpool; Bury v. Newport; Carlisle v. Mansfield; Chesterfield v. Notts County; Darlington v. Chester; Doncaster v. York; Fulham v. Middlesbrough; Gillingham v. Brentford; Port Vale v. Walsall; Swindon v. Rotherham.

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Lightfoot JUNIOR LATICS



HELLO and welcome to all young supporters. Tonight's fixture against Bolton Wanderers is a local derby and promises to be full of excitement. The last game here at Springfield Park saw the Blues score 5 goals against Walsall; a repeat performance tonight would cheer everyone, especially after the game against Blackpool last Saturday when everything seemed to go wrong for Wigan.

While standing on the terraces at Blackpool I must say how heartening it was to see so many young supporters who, despite the way the game was going, continued to cheer and support their team. Maybe there is a lesson here for our older supporters. Support and encouragement are what Latics need now, more than ever before, and our young supporters are a credit to the club in the way they are shouting their loyalty during these difficult days.

On a less serious note, Monday October 6th sees the next Junior Supporters evening with the doors open at 7.30. D.J. Dave Cadman will be hosting the evening and as well as the usual fun, games and free prizes we shall be having a bingo evening, so bring along your pens and pencils, and of course your membership card to enable you to qualify for the free members draw. We also hope to announce details of a number of trips that we intend to organise for junior members to away matches. These trips will be at specially reduced prices and are for Junior Latics members exclusively.

Another exclusive deal for Junior Latics members is the free T-shirt being given away at every home match starting with tonight's game. Simply go along to the Junior Latics Caravan before the kick off, show your membership card and you are automatically entered for the T-shirt draw. If you win your name will be called out and you can collect your T-shirt after the game. Remember, these T-shirts cannot be purchased and are only available to winners of the special draw. Good luck and of course enjoy the game. See you all on the 6th October.

Happy birthday to Paul Jewell on Sunday.

MATCH MASCOT

Tonight's match mascot is Andrew King. Andrew attends Abraham Guest High School at Orrell. His hobbies include both playing and watching football. His favourite player is Gary Lineker.

Keith Poyser
Vice chairman



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On the Commercial Scene

TONIGHT we welcome everyone from Westhoughton Car Radio who are sponsoring a game at Wigan for the first time.

As you will have noticed, W.C.R. are supporting Latics in other ways, they were here for the Open Day and, of course, they have the ground advertising boards behind the goals.

Many thanks to Ian and Gareth for all their support.

On Friday, 17th October, we have the pleasure of a Folk and Brass Band Concert, in aid of Latics.

'Where there's Folk there's Brass' is being held at the Mill at the Pier and is sponsored by Red Rose Radio.

The event is being organised by Mr. Dave Stott, a member of the Peelers and a member of the Greater Manchester Police force. Tickets are £3.00 each and £2.00 for O.A.P's and children, and are available from the Commercial Department now.

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In Da

15 YEARS AGO

Latics (1) 2 Fleetwood 0. Sat. 25th Sept. 1971. Att: 2,368 (Oates 33, Todd 55)

Northern Premier League
The match could be accurately described as a non-stop bombardment of the Fleetwood goal. Though the acrobatic Bromley was largely to blame for Wigan's failure to attain an astronomical score, these were several times when luck simply refused to smile on Athletic and add to that a referee (in fact Keith Hackett) who made it clear that a murder would have to take place before he would award a penalty, you have the reasons why Wigan were so near and yet so far from a cricket score. Bromley had already pulled off a string of five saves before Graham Oates played a 1-2 with Lee Koo and raced on to score with a low dipping shot. He was finally beaten again ten minutes after the interval when a free-kick, touched to Bobby Todd was hammered into the roof of the net by the midfield man. The near misses were too numerous to mention while at the other end, Dennis Reeves was having his most restful afternoon of the season.

Team: Reeves, Ledgard, Sutherland, Todd, Couits, Gillibrand, Breen, Koo, Davies, Fleming, Oates. Sub. King.

10 YEARS AGO

Latics (1) 2 Mossley (1) 2. Sat. 25th Sept. 1976. Att: 1,478 (Rogers (pen) 16, Wilkie 62) (Tinsley (pen) 20, Skeete 53)

Northern Premier League
John Rogers gave Latics the lead from the penalty spot awarded for an infringement on John Wilkie but four minutes later Mossley were themselves awarded a spot-kick. Ian Gillibrand was adjudged to have handled and Tinsley levelled matters. Early in the second half, Mossley undeservedly took the lead with a fluke goal. Tinsley's shot appeared to be going well wide until it hit Leo Skeete on the leg and went into the net off a post. It was then that Wigan showed their fighting spirit and some severe pressure paid off when Joe Hinnigan's header bisected the Mossley defence and the tireless John Wilkie was on hand to ram the ball high into the net. New signing John Martin, on loan from Southport, came on for the last fifteen minutes but Wigan's pressure failed to produce another goal. In the visitors' side were three former Latics men Albert Jackson, Joe Fletcher and Geoff Sleight. Also in their side were ex Leeds centre half Ray Elam, former Irish international Jimmy Nicholson and ex Man. Utd. star George Buchan.

Team: Brown, Hinnigan, Prescott, Gore, Ward, Gillibrand, Garrett, Worrick, Rogers, Wilkie, Wright. Sub. Martin for Wright 75 mins.

5 YEARS AGO

Tranmere Rovers 0 Latics 0. Sat. 26th Sept. 1981. Att: 2,774 Division Four

From start to finish the match was played in a downpour and really the only winners were the conditions, but there was no doubt the fans could have no complaint about the entertainment value from both sides. Thrills and spills in both goalmouths were at a maximum and with a local derby atmosphere provided by the hundreds of Wigan fans present, value for money was the order of the day. Tranmere's scoring opportunities were few and far between thanks to Larry Lloyd who was in superb form. Latics, on the other hand, had a number of chances. Peter Houghton was crowded out after being sent away by Jeff Wright. Clive Evans hit a tremendous free kick which was deflected for a corner and Kevin Sheldon also had a couple of efforts. Playing for Rovers was our former manager Bryan Hamilton and now our own Ian Griffiths. Derek Mountfield (Everton) was also in the team and the unused sub was former Latics player Bobby Hutchinson (now Bristol City). Our current manager Ray Mathias didn't face us, nor did Nigel Adkins who was also on Tranmere's books at the time.

Team: Ward, McMahon, Cribbley, Wright, Lloyd, Methven, Sheldon, M. Quinn, Bradd, Houghton, Evans. Sub. Langley for Bradd 71 mins.

Days Gone By

by Jeff Rourke

LATICS LEAGUE RECORD 78/79 to 85/86 Continued

HOME AWAY

	Seasons played	W	D	L	F-A	W	D	L	F-A	F	A
Huddersfield Town...	3	2	-	1	5-3	-	2	1	2-6	-	1
Hull City	3	1	2	-	4-3	1	-	2	3-4	1	-
Lincoln City	6	5	-	1	10-6	1	1	4	2-9	1	1
Mansfield Town	2	2	-	-	5-1	1	-	1	3-4	1	-
Millwall	3	1	1	1	3-2	-	-	3	1-8	-	1
Newport County	6	1	2	3	4-6	1	1	4	11-15	-	3
Northampton Town ..	4	3	1	-	8-1	2	2	-	9-6	2	-
Notts County	1	1	-	-	3-1	-	1	-	1-1	-	-
Orient	3	1	-	2	4-4	-	3	-	2-2	-	-
Oxford United	2	-	-	2	0-3	-	1	1	0-2	-	1

PAST RESULTS v. BOLTON WANDERERS

Season	Div.	Venue	Latics scorers	Result	Bolton scorers
82/82		John Brown Home	Wignall 25	1-0	—
		Testimonial			
83/84		Lancs Manx Home	—	0-0	—
		Cup			
	3	Home	—	0-1	Chandler 75
	3	Away	Johnson 15	1-0	—
84/85		Home	McElhinney (og) 8	1-0	—
	3	Away	—	0-1	Chandler (pen) 78
85/86		Away	Newell 19, Barrow 58	2-1	Thompson (pen) 33
	3	Home	Methven 65	1-3	Hartford 55, Gavin 64, Caldwell 71
		North Final	Home	0-1	Caldwell 89
		1st leg			
		2nd leg	Away	1-2	Oghani 61, Caldwell 88
86/87		Lancs Manx Away	Beesley 16, Lowe 44, Thompson 66, Jewell 78	4-3	Butler (og) 59, Thompson (pen) 64, Elliot 75
		Cup			
		Freight Rover			

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Just Vi BOLTON W

SIMON FARNWORTH (Goalkeeper):

The former England Schoolboy International is in his fourth season in the Bolton senior squad after graduating from the junior ranks. Made his debut in the League against Wimbledon in the first match of the 1983-84 season.

MIKE SALMON (Goalkeeper): In July, Bolton paid Stockport County £18,000 for the former Blackburn Rovers goalkeeper, the fee being set by a transfer tribunal. The 6ft. 2in Leyland-born player made his League debut for the Wanderers against Swindon Town on the opening day of the season.

PHIL NEAL (Defender): A veteran of more than 700 senior games, the former England full-back picked up a record eighth League Championship medal in May, five months after leaving Liverpool where he spent 11 glorious years. Fifty International caps plus European Cup and League/Milk Cup winners medals make the Bolton player-manager, who began his career with Northampton Town, the most decorated player in the domestic game today.

JIMMY PHILLIPS (Defender): Another product of the Bolton youth academy, the local-born defender has made the majority of his appearances at left back but has also played in the centre of defence and in midfield.

MARK CAME (Defender): Made an enormous leap from North West Counties League football to the professional ranks when he joined Bolton from Winsford United in April, 1984. The solid central defender, who made his Wanderers League debut in September that same year, has been a regular in the first team squad ever since.

DAVE SUTTON (Defender): The tall, blond central defender joined Bolton from Huddersfield Town in the summer of 1985 for a £12,000 fee. He was a member of two promotion-winning teams at Leeds Road after moving from Plymouth where he started his career.

DEREK SCOTT (Defender): The most versatile player in the Bolton squad. The former England Schoolboy International, who hails from Gateshead, played in almost every position during his 11 seasons with Burnley,



BACK ROW: (left to right) Mark Came, Mike Salmon, Steve Carroll (Youth team coach), Oghani, Steve Elliott, Dave Sutton, Warren Joyce, F. (Physiotherapist). **FRONT ROW:** Paul Allen, Julian Derek Scott, Tony Caldwell, Asa Hartford.

making his League debut in the First Division. Joined Bolton in June 1985 for a £20,000 fee. He is currently making his way back to action after a chest injury in the opening game of the season.

MARK WINSTANLEY (Defender): In his first season as a regular member of the Bolton senior squad, the young central defender made his League bow at Bournemouth in March last season.

JULIAN DARBY (Defender): Can play in defence or midfield, the Bolton-born youngster

visiting ANDERERS



n, Kevin Mailey, Simon Farnworth, Jimmy Phillips.
n), Steve Thompson, Mark Winstanley, George
Paul Clarke, Colin Irwin (Coach), Peter Nightingale
Darby, Mark Gavin, Phil Neal (Player/Manager),

came onto the scene last season when he made his League debut against Blackpool in March. **ASA HARTFORD (Midfield):** Capped 50 times by his country, the former Scottish International was considered in the "veteran" stages when he joined Bolton in the summer of 1985 from Norwich, for whom he scored the winning goal in the Milk Cup final that year. But he proved his durability by ending the season as Bolton's only ever-present. Still a great influence in midfield, the former West Brom,

Manchester City, Everton and Nottingham Forest star is the Bolton captain.

WARREN JOYCE (Midfield): The energetic, enthusiastic all-rounder is in his fifth season in the Bolton first team, after making his League debut at Carlisle in the Second Division in April 1983. He won representative honours as a schoolboy at cricket and rugby before turning to a career in football. Missed last season's Freight Rover Trophy final through injury.

STEVE THOMPSON (Midfield): A talented midfield player, with a powerful shot, Steve is a penalty spot specialist. A Bolton regular for the past three seasons after graduating from the junior ranks of the Club.

MARK GAVIN (Midfield): Phil Neal's first transfer "buy" in April, 1986. Wanderers paid Carlisle United a small fee for the speedy former Leeds United winger, who is at home on either flank.

STEVE ELLIOTT (Striker): Bolton paid Walsall £25,000 for the former Nottingham Forest apprentice who has had spells with Preston North End and Luton Town. Came to prominence at Deepdale after a £95,000 transfer. Scores goals himself but is also regarded as a provider for his attacking colleagues. Steve made his Bolton League debut against Swindon on the opening day of the season.

TONY CALDWELL (Striker): It's been goals galore for the Salford-born striker since he made a sensational switch from non-league football in 1983 when he joined Bolton from local club Horwich RMI. He was a part-time professional when he set a club and Third Division record with five goals in a game against Walsall in September 1983 and has been Bolton's top scorer three seasons in a row.

GEORGE OGHANI (Striker): Another capture from non-league football, George joined Bolton from Hyde United in October 1983. Loves to score goals and a sparkling spell towards the end of last season helped Wanderers along the way to their Freight Rover Trophy Final appearance at Wembley. Made his League debut at Wimbledon in January, 1984.

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DAVE SWANTON

GOOD evening and welcome to Springfield Park for our biggest league match of the season to date. Hopefully the Latics will perform better than they did on Easter Saturday and in the Freight Rover Northern Final when we scored one goal and conceded four against a well drilled Bolton team.

Since last season Bolton have made two important signings in Steve Elliot and Mick Salmon... Steve was a great favourite of mine during his years at Deepdale and I witnessed him scoring a superb hat trick at Scunthorpe 3 Christmasses ago... Mick Salmon has joined the club from Stockport but more importantly... he attended the same school as I did... Wellfield High School in Leyland.

I was impressed by Bolton after Phil Neal took over but like ourselves they have seen early season results go against them and will be looking for a win tonight just like the Latics. After the Public meeting at Maxims I was glad to see the lads click into gear against Walsall with a great win but spare a thought for Paul Jewell who did everything bar score... do you remember a similar performance by Paul against Rochdale in the Freight trophy earlier this year when we won 6-0. Well Paul I'm prepared to sit and watch you play like that all season as your distribution and setting up goals was sufficient to warrant team selection.

I know the 2000 or so supporters enjoyed the Walsall game but spare me a thought... everytime I was cued in by the studio I had goals to report (first half) plus the numerous announcements that had to be made... I know the players were tired but so was I.

Don't forget the Blue Chip Association Roadshows and the Big Bonfire Night planned for November 5th... One thing for sure... it's rarely quiet when the season kicks off and John Fillingham's brain ticks over on how to look after the fans.

Shout your team on tonight and remember to behave yourself as English football is currently at a low ebb and could do with some trouble free games to rebuild its image.
Enjoy your evening

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What were you doing on



WIGAN ATHLETIC — 1949-50

Standing: E. Berry (Trainer), Tolley, Whiteside, Cunliffe, Sharrat, Parkinson, Shirley, Bob Pryde (Manager)

Seated: Finan, Rothwell, Lomax, Taylor, Pollard.

Photo by courtesy of "Sporting Chronicle"

"CONSIDERABLE local interest is being taken in the clash between Wigan Athletic and Burscough at Springfield Park this weekend in the 1st Qualifying Round of the FA Cup competition.

"Refusing to visualise anything but the success of their favourites, the Burscough supporters are arranging to invade Wigan in their hundreds by a special train and also by various road vehicles.

"The Athletic supporters, on the other hand are confident in their own team but are hoping that their forwards will have found their shooting boots in time, for these cup ties very often "come unstuck" and nothing can be left to chance.

"The Wigan team will be selected later in the week as several injuries have caused doubts to fitness.

"A limited number of centre stand tickets, priced 3s. each will be on sale at Springfield Park."

Sept., 26th, 1949?

So wrote the Wigan Observer in the corresponding week 47 years ago. It was a week in which Latics, then in the Lancashire Combination, beat Morecambe 1-0 at Springfield Park, with a goal by Taylor.

The team was: Woolley, Tolley, Parkinson, Smith, Pryde, Cunliffe, Taylor, Finan, Lomax, Rothwell and Pollard.

Latics Reserves fixtures appeared in the paper that week, telling everyone that they faced teams like Lomax (Bolton), Stubshaw Cross Rovers, De Havilland, Barnoldswick and Bolton Wanderers 'B'.

Wigan hammered York 32-4 away from home with a star-studded team that read: Ryan, Hilton, Cunliffe, Ashcroft Nordgren, Mountford, Bradshaw, Slevin, Egan, Barton, Hudson, Large and Blan.

The curling season opened at the Ice Palace, Manchester this week when the Wigan and Haigh Club were represented. In the morning Wigan were well beaten by Belle Vue 19 shots to 10 but they had a victory in the afternoon, 17-7 against Preston.

On the news front plans for a new Grammar School at Up Holland to provide accommodation for 510 pupils have been approved by Lancashire Education Committee. The total cost is expected to be £212,425.

Rivington Hall and the two Barns, Great House and Hall, are to be vacated by the Ministry of Food and re-quisioned at the end of this month but the hutments in Lever Park will continue to be used for grain storage until next year.

Water restrictions came into force in Wigan on Monday evening. By turning the water off between 8.30 p.m. and 6 a.m. Wigan Water Committee hope to save 250,000 gallons a day.

An advert read: "Wallpapers (when available) from 2/6d a roll (trimmed free) from McGregors, Commercial Yard, Market Place.

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Friday 17th October 1986

7.30 p.m. Mill at the Pier

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Dear Sir/Madam,

I think the new edition to the Wigan Athletic match day programme "Signing Off" can become a great hit among the Latics fans. The only thing I think is missing is a bit of wit or humour, if that team down the road that plays with the funny shaped balls can have a down and out like Doug Stand writing for them, then surely we can have somebody who writes with a fair comical nip in his pen.

A few people keep telling me that the rugby team at Central Park score quite a lot of goals in every match they play, but as far as I can gather, and I've gathered a few rugby balls myself in my time, the balls end up in the Douglas rather than over the H's, personally speaking and I've always had Blue blood in my veins, I'd rather watch a great game of soccer down here at Springfield, than watch a group of lads throwing an egg around on a convector heater.

Question "Why is there always, so many hold-ups in the game of rugby league?"

Answer: The ball or EGG in question keeps breaking (cracking) and every two minutes, a new one has to be fetched on and RE-PLACED in a Scrum!

THE WORLD ABOUT US BY P.H.D.

I was told by a cricket umpire friend of mine, that for the recent Lancashire v. Somerset game at Old Trafford, Ian Botham had been warned by the local police regarding hitting too many sixes at regular intervals. There is a reason for this, the last time Ian Botham played there, there was plenty of confusion among Manchester folk, many thought they had seen Halleys comet on a return mission, in fact what they had seen, was one of Botham's magnificent strikes, resulting in the ball zooming over the pavilion on route for Australia for the next Test match. Every time Lancashire take on Botham and company in seasons to come, the police are going to leave messages at the side of the stumps, they'll read "Botham and company beware of low flying AIRCRAFT". So Manchester AIRPORT be warned Ian Botham strikes quicker than lighting.

There's more where these have come from, hope they'll be useful.

Yours faithfully,
Norman Holland,
A true blue



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Carlisle	6	0	2	1	2	5	1	1	1	4	6
Rotherham	6	0	1	2	0	2	1	1	1	4	3
Swindon	5	0	1	2	4	9	1	1	0	4	3
Chester	5	0	2	0	4	4	0	2	1	2	4
Bury	6	0	2	1	2	4	0	1	2	3	6
Wigan	6	1	0	2	6	5	0	0	3	2	9
Walsall	5	0	0	2	1	6	1	0	2	6	8

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13 Sat	Barnsley		H
21 Sun	Mansfield Town 3.00 p.m.		A
26 Fri	Chester 12 noon		H
27 Sat	York City		A
JANUARY '87			
1 Thur	Bury	.....	A
3 Sat	Darlington	.....	H
10 Sat	North County F.A. Cup Rd. 3	.....	H
17 Sat	Middlesbrough	.....	A
24 Sat	Bristol City	.....	H
31 Sat	Newport County F.A. Cup Rd. 4	.....	A
FEBRUARY			
7 Sat	Walsall	.....	A
13 Fri	Blackpool	.....	H
21 Sat	Bolton Wanderers F.A. Cup Rd. 5	.....	A
28 Sat	Rotherham United	.....	H
MARCH			
3 Tue	Carlisle United	.....	A
7 Sat	A.F.C. Burnham	.....	H
14 Sat	Fulham F.A. Cup Rd. 6	.....	A
17 Tue	Chesham	.....	H
21 Sat	Bristol Rovers	.....	A
28 Sat	Swindon Town	.....	H
APRIL			
4 Sat	Pert Vale	.....	H
11 Sat	Doncaster Rovers F.A. Cup S/F	.....	A
17 Fri	Bury 11.30 am	.....	H
20 Mon	Chester	.....	A
25 Sat	Mossfield Town	.....	H
MAY			
2 Sat	Gillingham	.....	A
4 Mon	York City	.....	H
9 Sat	Brentford	.....	A
16 Sat	F.A. Cup Final	.....	

In Reserve

IT was nice to get back to winning ways in our reserve game against Rotherham, a vast improvement was shown on our previous weeks performance from all involved in the game. Once again it was a chance to give some of our youngsters a game along with a couple of trialists. These players, combining with experience of the likes of John Lowey who did his utmost to help the younger ones during the games and I'm sure it was a great relief for John to get 90 minutes play under his belt after missing the last 3 weeks with an achilles problem. Hopefully, it will not be long before he's in contention for a first team place.

The first half saw some fine attacking play from both teams and it was not surprising that we went in at half time on level terms, the score being 0-0. In the second half we were quick to put the Rotherham defense under constant pressure and were rewarded with two fine goals, the first coming from Robbie Lysons who was playing his 1st reserve game and came out with a very creditable performance for a 16 year old lad, our 2nd scored by trialist John Coleman with a fine header from a Jimmy Mitchell cross, the quality of cross being what all strikers must dream of. If we continue to put the effort into our future games as was shown in this game we will go a long way to achieving a successful season.

DIVISION TWO

Blackpool	3	3	0	0	9	2	9
Grimsby Town	3	3	0	0	9	5	9
Barnsley	3	2	0	1	9	2	6
Huddersfield Town	2	2	0	0	5	1	6
Bradford City	3	2	0	1	9	6	6
Scunthorpe United	2	1	1	0	3	2	4
Bolton Wanderers	3	1	1	1	5	5	4
Wigan Athletic	3	1	1	1	6	7	4
Stoke City	2	1	0	1	4	3	3
Port Vale	3	1	0	2	3	4	3
West Bromwich Albion	2	1	0	1	3	4	3
Doncaster Rovers	3	1	0	2	4	7	3
Darlington	3	1	0	2	4	9	3
Preston North End	3	0	1	2	2	5	1
Rotherham United	2	0	1	1	3	6	1
York City	3	0	1	2	4	8	1
Notts. County	3	0	0	3	2	7	0
Wolverhampton Wanderers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

AUGUST

27 Wed. Notts County A 3-0

SEPTEMBER

2 Tue. Bolton Wanderers H 2-2

9 Tue. Bradford City H 1-5

17 Wed. Rotherham United H 2-0

24 Wed. Barnsley A

OCTOBER

1 Wed. West Bromwich Albion H

6 Mon. Stoke City Res. 7pm A

8 Wed. Stoke City A

15 Wed. Grimsby Town A

22 Wed. Huddersfield Town H

29 Wed. Port Vale A

NOVEMBER

5 Wed. Scunthorpe United A

11 Tue. Preston North End A

18 Tue. York City H

26 Wed. Darlington A

DECEMBER

2 Tue. Doncaster Rovers H

8 Mon. Wolverhampton Wanderers A

30 Tue. Preston North End H

JANUARY 1987

7 Tue. Blackpool A

13 Tue. Notts County H

21 Wed. Bolton Wanderers A

27 Tue. Bradford City A

FEBRUARY

3 Tue. Barnsley H

10 Tue. Rotherham United A

18 Wed. York City A

24 Tue. Darlington H

MARCH

4 Wed. Huddersfield Town A

10 Tue. Grimsby Town H

18 Wed. Stoke City H

25 Wed. West Bromwich Albion A

APRIL

1 Wed. Scunthorpe United H

7 Tue. Port Vale H

15 Wed. Doncaster Rovers A

26 Tue. Blackpool H

MAY

5 Tue. Wolverhampton Wanderers H

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With the YOUTH TEAM

OUR Youth Team continued its fine start to the season with a 3-2 home win over Tranmere Rovers at Robin Park. As usual, our boys started in confident mood playing some lovely football at times with 15 year old Shawn Fallon often prominent. Apprentice Barry Smith stormed down the right wing on some really dangerous runs. It was a fiercely hit shot from young Fallon, however, which led to Robert Lysons opening the scoring from the resultant fumble by the Rovers' keeper. Wigan ended the half well on top with Andrew Wilson and Jonathon Crompton both going close to adding to our account. Soon after the break that man Lysons grabbed his second goal as Rovers failed to clear a corner from the right. But our back four then decided to go to sleep for five minutes and a failure to both cover and mark in response to hopefully hit long balls from the back enabled Tranmere to score two goals which they never

looked likely to do at any stage before.

Stung into action by such blatant slackness Wigan mounted a series of dangerous raids which just had to bring some reward. Sure enough the winner arrived thanks to the alertness of Robert Lysons who claimed a fine hat-trick in this match. Robert has now scored 4 times in three matches which should do his confidence no harm at all after a demon spell last season. Manager Ray Mathias put the problems of his First team behind him for a time last week as he and Youth Development Officer David Crompton signed the highly promising 15 year old right back Roy Litherland on Associate Schoolboy forms. An ex St. Helens Boys star, Roy has shown considerable ability in recent weeks and is already involved in our Lancashire League matches.

P.S. Don't lose them!

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Signing Off...

"PLATINI of the Potteries" was just one headline over the weekend telling the soccer world that Stoke's former Latics midfielder Tony Kelly could score spectacular goals from free kicks...

So what? Latics fans could have told them that a long time ago if the "National" reporters had bothered to attend Springfield Park when Mr. Kelly was in his prime.

Of the 20 odd goals Tony has scored in his career, most have been from either free kicks or penalties - with the free kicks all benders from 20 yards or so.

It got to the stage where, whenever Latics got a free kick on the edge of the box, it was a virtual certain goal, courtesy of Tony's right foot.

So, let's not pretend that Tony's free kicks are something new for Stoke fans to savour. There are some Latics fans who've been brought up on them.

It was interesting to hear Oldham manager Joe Royle commenting after his side's 5-4 defeat at Huddersfield over the weekend - their first of the season.

Oldham are renowned for their use of the offside trap - that most distasteful of tactics that is one of the ills of our modern game.

So it's a bit rich to hear Mr. Royle claiming that two of Huddersfield's goals "were blatantly offside". "Signing Off" would argue that those who live by the sword, perish by the sword.

"Signing off" also promised we would keep you informed of the Colin Greenall saga. Remember he went to Gillingham from Blackpool, who wanted £100,000 for their centre half.

Gillingham offered nothing like that so the matter went to tribunal. Well, they decided that Greenall was worth £40,000 - much more than Gillingham offered, but much less than Blackpool wanted. If you can work out who'll be happiest after that little lot, then let us know.



TEAMS & OFFICIALS

WIGAN ATHLETIC

(Royal Blue)

- 1 Roy Tunks
- 2 John Butler
- 3 *Mark Houlditch*
Barry Knowles
- 4 David Hamilton
- 5 Alex Cribbley
- 6 Paul Beesley
- 7 David Lowe
- 8 Chris Thompson
- 9 Paul Jewell
- 10 *Houston*
Paul Cook
- 11 Graham Houston
- 12 *Barry Knowles*
Jon Lowey

RESULT

HALF-TIME SCORE

ATTENDANCE

HOME SCORERS

VISITORS SCORERS

SUBSTITUTES

BOLTON WANDERERS

(Red)

- 1 Mike Salmon
- 2 Phil Neale
- 3 Mark Winstanley
- 4 Warren Joyce
- 5 Mark Came
- 6 Julien Darby
- 7 Mark Gavin
- 8 Steve Thompson
- 9 Steve Elliott
- 10 Tony Caldwell
- 11 Jimmy Phillips
- 12 *George Osborn*
Asa Hartford

REFEREE

Mr. David Allison

LINESMEN

(Red trim)

A. Bennett

(Yellow trim)

J. Blakemore

Today's **mitre** Delta
Matchball donated by



J. TWISS & SONS
(Bakery)

HERE NEXT

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11th, 1986

WIGAN ATHLETIC

v

BRISTOL ROVERS

LEAGUE DIVISION THREE